

PATENT
Atty. Docket No. 29250-000737/US
Application No. 09/465,198

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. Claims 19-25 have been added. Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable features of claim 5. Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claim 23 includes the allowable features of claims 3, 6 and 7, respectively. Claims 1, 9, 19, 20, and 23-25 are independent. Support for claim 19 may be found, *inter alia*, on page 5 of the specification. Support for claims 20 and 21 may be found, *inter alia*, on page 3 of the specification.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the interviews on January 13, 2004 and January 16, 2004 at which time the Examiner agreed to withdraw a final rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Alperovich et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Applicant submits that claim 1 is allowable because claim 1 includes the features of claim 5 which the Examiner indicated as being allowable.

Applicant submits that claim 2 is allowable at least because it depends from independent claim 1 which Applicant has shown to be allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-18 are allowable. Applicant has not put claims 3-8 into independent form because claims 3-8 depend from claim 1, which Applicant has shown to be allowable.

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New Claims

Claims 23-25 are allowable at least because claims 23-25 include elements of claims 3, 6, and 7, respectively, which the Examiner has indicated as being allowable.

Claims 19-22 are allowable at least because the art cited by the Examiner fails to anticipate the features therein.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the various rejections and allowance of claims 1-4 and 6-25 is respectfully requested.

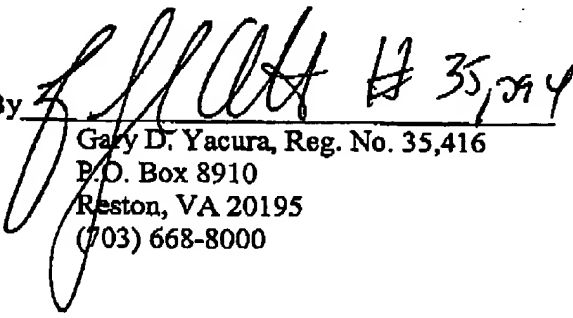
In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, Applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss this application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By


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GDY/RFS